

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3009
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007
BREAST CANCER
Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of new cases of breast cancer which are diagnosed in the country every year;
- (b) the preventive steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to control the menace of breast cancer;
- (c) whether Scientists have identified any genes which are associated with breast cancer;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any research has been conducted in this regard in the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b) : Based on the incidence of breast cancers observed in the Population Based Cancer Registry including North East Registries compiled by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) the number of new cases of breast cancers that are diagnosed in the country are estimated to be 1,23,445.

Health being a State Subject, it is for the State Governments to ensure that adequate facilities for early detection, diagnosis and treatment of cancer are made available. Central Government under the schemes of National Cancer Control Programme lays special emphasis on early detection of Cancer through screening, promoting health education, creating awareness etc. under District Cancer Control Programme. There are 25 Regional Cancer Centres in the country providing comprehensive cancer care treatment.

(c)to(f): According to ICMR, Mutations in Breast Cancer Susceptibility Gene BRCA-1 and BRCA-2 account for more than 80% of hereditary breast cancers. The other genes such as p53 (tumor suppressor gene) that controls cellular growth and differentiation is also known to be mutated in more than 50% of human cancers including breast cancer.

Genetic and epigenetic aspects of breast cancer etiology are being investigated at several advanced centres of the country including Institute of Cytology and Preventive Oncology, Noida.